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BOROUGH OF TEWKESBURY

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ANNUAL REPORT

on the

HEALTH OF THE BOROUGH

for the Year 1960

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B., D.P.H.

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

Newman, Printer, Tewkesbury

PUBLIC HEALTH COMMITTEE

Chairman: COUNCILLOR J. R. GRIFFITHS.

Members: The Worshipful the Mayor of Tewkesbury, Councillor H. O. Workman; Aldermen S. C. J. Moulder, T. G. Bannister, F. H. Knight, G. T. Troughton; Councillors B. Sweet, W. E. Lane, Dr. P. K. Holding, L. G. Marston (Deputy Mayor), G. S. Brown, G. Robinson, F. Thompson, S. Walkley, T. Adams, L. A. Webber.

PUBLIC HEALTH STAFF

STEPHEN KNIGHT, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., D.P.H., Medical Officer of Health to the Tewkesbury Borough, the Urban District of Charlton Kings and the Rural Districts of Gloucester and Cheltenham, and the County Divisional Medical Officer of Health for the North Gloucestershire Divisional Area (North Gloucestershire Area Health Sub-Committee).

J. B. COMPTON, M.A.P.H.I., M.R.S.H., M.R.I.P.A., Public Health Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and Petroleum Officer. (Resigned July, 1960.)

J. H. TURNER, M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I., Public Health Inspector, Inspector of Meat and Other Foods and Petroleum Officer. (Commenced 1st August, 1960.)

Adoptive Legislation in force in the Borough

Public Health Act, 1936, Section 75—Provision of Regulation Dustbins—adopted 21st March, 1938.

Byelaws

Tents, Vans and Sheds and similar structures—adopted 1st November, 1938.

Handling, Wrapping and Delivery of Food and Sale of Food in the Open Air—adopted 21st April, 1952.

Building—adopted 20th April, 1953.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT,
MUNICIPAL OFFICES,
TEWKESBURY.

June, 1961.

*To the Mayor,
Aldermen and Councillors of the Borough of Tewkesbury*

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present the annual report on the health of the Borough and environmental conditions for the year 1960.

The Registrar General's estimate of the population is 5,640 and shows an increase of 80 persons over the previous year. At the time of writing the preliminary report of the 1961 census has been published, the population being 5,840, which is 520 more than the 1951 census.

Births numbered 106, an annual increase of 12, making the Birth Rate 18.8 as compared with 17.1, for the country as a whole.

There were 70 deaths, 13 more than in 1959; the Death Rate 12.4 being slightly higher than the national rate 11.5, but after correction to allow for the higher proportion of elderly people in the Borough, the corrected Death Rate is 10.8.

Only two babies died under one year of age, so that infantile mortality is at the rate of 19 such deaths per 1,000 live births and is more favourable than the national rate of 21.7. The continued fall in the infant mortality rate reflects most favourably upon the health of the community.

Infectious disease in any form was remarkably light in incidence due in large measure to the acceptance by parents of the various immunisation schemes for their children.

Rehousing of families from unfit dwellings has been slow because of the difficulty in finding suitable sites on which Council houses can be built economically. The Council have before them proposals for further building at Prior's Park, but this project involves the use of some land at present used for allotments.

In the old town there are areas which have been partly cleared and the houses remaining are sub-standard; if such areas could be cleared they would provide excellent areas for redevelopment.

In conclusion, I am glad to be able to express my sincere thanks to the Members of the Council for their help and consideration and to the staff for willing co-operation during the year.

I have the honour to be,

Your obedient servant,

STEPHEN KNIGHT,

Medical Officer of Health.

VITAL STATISTICS

These statistics give particulars of the births and deaths in the Borough, together with certain rates which are compared, where possible, with those for England and Wales.

A detailed list of the causes of death will be found in Table 1.

1. Live Births.

		Total	Male	Female
Number:	Legitimate	99	43	56
	Illegitimate	7	3	4
		—	—	—
	Total ...	106	46	60
		—	—	—
		Borough of Tewkesbury	England and Wales	
Crude Live Birth Rate per 1,000 population		18.8		17.1
Area Comparability Factor		0.93		—
Corrected Live Birth Rate (18.8×0.93) ...		17.5		—

2. Still Births.

		Total	Male	Female
Number:	Legitimate	1	1	—
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
		—	—	—
	Total ...	1	1	—
		—	—	—
		Borough of Tewkesbury	England and Wales	
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births	...	9.2		19.7
Still Birth Rate per 1,000 population	...	0.2		—
Total Live and Still Births		107		

3. Infant Deaths.

		Total	Male	Female
(i) Deaths of Infants under 1 year.				
Number:	Legitimate	2	1	1
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
		—	—	—
	Total ...	2	1	1
		—	—	—
(ii) Deaths of Infants under 4 weeks.				
Number:	Legitimate	2	1	1
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
		—	—	—
	Total ...	2	1	1
		—	—	—
(iii) Deaths of Infants under 1 week.				
Number:	Legitimate	2	1	1
	Illegitimate	—	—	—
		—	—	—
	Total ...	2	1	1
		—	—	—

4. Infant Mortality Rates.

	Borough of Tewkesbury	England and Wales
Total Infant Deaths per 1,000 total live births	19.0	21.7
Legitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 legitimate live births	22.2	—
Illegitimate Infant Deaths per 1,000 illegitimate live births	Nil	—
Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 4 weeks per 1,000 total live births) ...	19.0	—
Early Neonatal Mortality Rate (deaths under 1 week per 1,000 total live births)	19.0	—
Perinatal Mortality Rate (still births and deaths under 1 week combined per 1,000 total live and still births) ...	28.0	—
Maternal Mortality (including abortion):		
Number of deaths	Nil	—
Rate per 1,000 total live and still births	Nil	—

5. Deaths

Number	... ... ...	Total 70	Male 34	Female 36
		Borough of Tewkesbury		England and Wales
Death Rate per 1,000 population ...	...	12.4		11.5
Area Comparability Factor ...	...	0.87		—
Corrected Death Rate (12.4×0.87)	...	10.8		—

CAUSES OF DEATH IN THE BOROUGH IN 1960

Table 1 gives the causes of death in the Borough in accordance with the abbreviated list of 36 groups of the World Health Organisation Nomenclature Regulations, 1948.

Table 1

	Causes of Death .		Male	Female
1	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...
2	Tuberculosis, other ...	...	...	...
3	Syphilitic disease ...	...	...	...
4	Diphtheria ...	...	...	...
5	Whooping Cough ...	...	...	...
6	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...
7	Acute Poliomyelitis ...	...	...	...
8	Measles ...	...	...	...
9	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...
10	* Malignant neoplasm, stomach	...	2	...
11	Malignant neoplasm, lung bronchus	...	4	1
12	Malignant neoplasm, breast ...	...	...	2
13	Malignant neoplasm, uterus ...	...	...	...
14	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	2	5	.
15	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...
16	Diabetes ...	...	...	...
17	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	3	10
18	Coronary disease, angina ...	...	5	4
19	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...
20	Other heart disease ...	...	4	5
21	Other circulatory disease	...	1	4
22	Influenza ...	...	...	...
23	Pneumonia ...	...	1	...
24	Bronchitis ...	...	2	1
25	Other diseases of respiratory system	...	...	...
26	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	1	...
27	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...
28	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...
29	Hyperplasia of prostate	...	1	...
30	Cregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...
31	Congenital malformations	...	...	1
32	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	4	3
33	Motor vehicle accidents	...	1	...
34	All other accidents ...	...	3	...
35	Suicide ...	...	...	...
36	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...
	Total ...	...	34	36

EXPLANATORY NOTE: * Neoplasm equals Cancer

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS OF THE BOROUGH

Area (in acres): 2,614 (including 96 acres of water).

Population (Registrar General's estimate of Home Population mid-1960): 5,640.

Number of inhabited houses (31st December, 1960) according to rate books: 1,792.

Sum represented by a penny rate: £356 (net).

Rateable Value: £91,108.

General Rate: 1960-61: 22s. 2d. (County Precept: 15s. 4d.).

Social Conditions and Chief Industries

The Borough, situated at the confluence of the Rivers Avon and Severn, and on the main trunk road from the North and Midlands to the South-West, is a popular stopping place for motorists and coach operators. Several hotels and many restaurants and cafes cater for the needs of the tourist. Tewkesbury is an excellent centre from which to make leisurely trips to the surrounding countryside. Fishing and boating on the rivers, together with municipally provided amenities, including camping and caravan sites, tennis courts, putting greens and children's swimming pool are other attractions for the holidaymaker. There is a wealth of interest in the many buildings of historic and architectural merit, the most important, of course, being the renowned Norman Abbey. The town also is the shopping and educational centre to the surrounding countryside.

Catering for the tourist is a staple industry, but there are other opportunities for employment in the light engineering, flour milling and boat building industries.

Unemployment

Miss J. Wilkinson, Manager of the local Employment Exchange, has kindly supplied the following report:

January, 1960, showed an increase of 27% in the number of persons registered as unemployed, as compared with the previous December. This number gradually decreased until it reached its lowest point in September, when it showed a drop of nearly 50% since the beginning of the year.

At December, 1960, the local unemployment figure stood at 1.2% of the insured population of the area, as against the national average of 1.9% at the same date. The monthly average number of persons registered as unemployed was 37 men, 11 women, 1 boy and 1 girl.

The demand for labour fluctuated throughout the year and was at its highest in May/June. A high proportion of the men's vacancies were in skilled occupations and the openings for women were, as usual, mainly in domestic work in hotels, canteens and hospitals. In all, 368 persons were placed in employment during the year.

The greatest difficulty now is to find suitable employment for the over 50's, many of whom are unskilled and, in addition, are not physically fit for ordinary labouring work.

The interchange of workers between Tewkesbury and the adjacent Employment areas continues.

GENERAL PROVISION OF HEALTH SERVICES IN THE BOROUGH

Laboratory Services

The examination of pathological specimens, and the bacteriological examination of milk, ice cream and water is carried out at the Gloucester Royal Hospital Laboratory, under the Medical Research Council's scheme, free of charge.

Chemical analyses of water and sewage samples taken by the Public Health Inspector are carried out by the Council's Analysts, Messrs. Ellis and Turner, Public Analysts, Gloucester.

Water analyses in respect of the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board's works are carried out by the Chemist to the Board.

Hospitals

The Council have no responsibility for arranging hospital treatment, except with regard to old people in need of care and attention and dealt with under the National Assistance Acts.

Infectious disease cases are admitted to Gloucester City Isolation Hospital at Over (Gloucester, Stroud and Forest Hospital Management Committee).

Ambulance Facilities

There is one ambulance at the Ambulance Station in Mill street, which has an establishment of four full-time drivers. In emergencies, ambulances from Cheltenham are available. Infectious disease cases are transported to hospital by the ambulance service. The County Council are responsible for the administration of the service.

Nursing in the Home

Working under the County Health Committee, there are two District Nurses living in the Borough and giving a midwifery and general nursing service throughout the Borough and the Parishes of Ashchurch, Tredington and Twynning.

Home Help Service

This service is administered by the Area Health Sub-Committee of the County Council, providing for the domestic needs of the aged, sick and handicapped, in their own homes. With this assistance, old people are helped to carry on in familiar surroundings.

Mrs. A. E. Heard, the Area Home Help Organiser, gives the following particulars of work done during the year.

The following types of cases were assisted:

	Maternity Cases	General Sickness	Tuberculosis	Chronic Sick or Old Age	Total
Current cases on 1.1.60	—	—	1	15	16
New cases ...	7	6	—	13	26
Cases completed ...	7	5	—	8	20
Current cases at 31.12.60	—	1	1	20	22

The request for help in Tewkesbury continues to grow, but there is a persistent shortage of labour. At present, there are only 9 helps for 22 cases.

National Assistance Acts, 1948 and 1951

Under these Acts, the Council have authorised their Medical Officer of Health to arrange, if need be, for the compulsory removal to a hospital or residential hostel, of any person who is aged, sick and incapacitated, living in insanitary conditions and unable to care for themselves and not receiving proper attention from other people. One old lady, living alone and bedridden, was removed to hospital. When she was taken to hospital she seemed to be glad that the initiative had been taken out of her hands, and settled down quite happily.

Tewkesbury Old People's Welfare Committee

The Honorary Organising Secretary, Mrs. M. Penn, has kindly supplied a full report on the valuable work of this voluntary Committee.

Fortnightly meetings of the Golden Hour Club are very popular, with an average attendance of between 80 to 90. Activities include day and evening trips, home and hospital visiting, and a private Spring holiday was arranged by the Honorary Organising Secretary for both members and non-members. An over 60's handicraft exhibition, only the second of its kind in the County, arranged with the assistance of the Community Council's Old People's Welfare Organiser, was a great success with over 1,000 people attending.

Chiropody Service

Operated under the Gloucestershire County Council National Health Scheme, at a cost of 2/- per treatment. There were 1,106 appointments at the clinic and 21 domiciliary visits. Treatment is still provided at the Golden Hour Club Headquarters and organised by the Committee. The service is available now to physically handicapped persons of all age groups, and expectant mothers, in addition to women of 60 and over and men of 65 and over, as requested by Doctors, Health Visitors or District Nurses.

Health Visiting

Operating from and with offices at The Clinic, two health visitors are employed by the County Council. Their main functions are to prevent disease, and to provide health education by example in the home and at the clinic for the families under their care.

Family Social Worker

The County Children's Department employ a family social worker in the Borough and adjacent districts, giving advice, encouragement and, where necessary, practical demonstrations in the home.

Miss P. Clowes, County Children's Officer, gives the following report:

Two families were helped in Tewkesbury, involving 10 children. One family responded very well to help, but the other family remains under close supervision, needing much help in household management and family relationships, although there was a distinct improvement after rehousing of the family.

Problem Families

Arrangements were agreed between the County Council and the District Councils concerning a scheme for the rehabilitation of problem families.

Mr. Birch, one of the four Rehabilitation Officers appointed by the County Council, is responsible for problem families in the Borough..

When arrears of rent are such as to render the family liable to eviction, the circumstances are reported to the Rehabilitation Officer. It is found that the main causes of non-payment of rent are:

1. Lack of proper budgeting of the family income.
2. Over-commitment on hire purchase of non-essential household articles.
3. A general belief that all debts have precedent over payment of rent.

In spite of the obvious difficulties in the work of such an Officer, a successful start has been made to secure the rehabilitation of these families in their own homes.

Details of the cases referred to the Rehabilitation Officer are given below:

No. of Cases	Cases Refused after First Report	Cases Withdrawn after Satisfactory Report	No. of Cases Being Visited
15	1	1	13

CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Child Welfare Centre

Held weekly in The Clinic, Church Street, on Thursdays from 2.30—4 p.m. and run with commendable success by a Voluntary Committee, this Centre is under the general administration of the Area Sub-Committee of the County Council, which includes members of this Council.

Table 2 records the number of sessions and attendances at the Centre during the year:

Table 2

No. of Sessions	No. of First Attendances			Total No. of Attendances		
	1960	Born	1955-58	Under 1	Over 1	Total
		1959				
52	61	67	70	822	663	1485

Tewkesbury Clinic, Church Street

This Clinic opens as follows:

Ante-Natal Clinic: Weekly, Wednesday afternoons. (Relaxation Classes: alternate Tuesdays.)

Probation Officer: Weekly, Thursday evening (5—7 p.m.).

Orthopaedic Clinic: Weekly, Tuesday mornings (10—12 noon) attended by an Orthopaedic Sister.

Speech Therapy Clinic: Weekly, Friday afternoons.

Dental Clinic: Monday mornings.

Welfare Foods: Thursday afternoons and Saturday mornings.

Tewkesbury Hospital, Barton Road

Chest Clinic: Fortnightly Monday afternoons attended by Chest Physician.

G.U. Clinic: Tuesday morning.

Medical Clinic: Wednesday morning.

Gynaecology Clinic: 1st and 3rd Wednesday afternoons.

Orthopaedic Clinic: 2nd, 3rd and 4th Thursday mornings.

Ophthalmic Clinic: Friday morning.

General Surgical: Friday afternoon.

MORTUARIES

If necessary, use is made of the Tewkesbury Hospital Mortuary.

PREVALENCE OF, AND CONTROL OVER, INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

Table 3 shows the incidence of notifiable disease by age groups. It will be noted that the numbers are small.

Diphtheria Immunisation

The numbers of children who have completed a full course of immunisation between 1st January, 1946, and 31st December, 1960, are as follows:

Age at 31.12.60 (i.e. born in year) ...	Under 1 year 1960	1 1959	2 1958	3 1957	4 1956	5-9 1955-1951	10-14 1950-1946
No. Immunised	25	59	53	78	83	477	421

Total ... 1,196.

No. of Children Immunised in 1960:

Primary ...	...	...	...	...	94
Maintenance	...	...	...	...	29

There was a slight increase in the total number of children immunised against diphtheria and approximately as many primary immunisations were carried out as there were births. A particularly gratifying feature is the marked increase in the immunisation of babies under one year of age. The records of immunisation are those done at Child Welfare Centres, Schools, and by General Medical Practitioners.

Vaccination against Whooping Cough

In April, 1960, the use of a trivalent vaccine was introduced at the Child Welfare Centres. The vaccine gives protection against diphtheria, whooping cough and tetanus. In time the figures for protection against diphtheria will apply to whooping cough.

Vaccination against Small Pox

The following figures record the vaccinations against smallpox completed during the year:

Ages ...	Under 1 year	1	2-4	5-14	15 and over	Total
Vaccination...	41	3	4	1	5	54
Re-vaccination	—	—	—	—	13	13

Proportion of children under one year of age vaccinated, expressed as a percentage of the number of births during the year:

1959	1960
<hr/> 39%	<hr/> 40%

Year by year there has been a steady increase in the number of children vaccinated against smallpox; 1960 was no exception, but even so, the target of 50% of children under 1 year of age being protected has not yet been reached. It is considered that this figure should be 50%, to enable a community to have sufficient resistance to prevent the spread of an epidemic. However, the Tewkesbury figure compares favourably with neighbouring areas and the country as a whole.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

It is estimated that approximately 80% of children under 15 years of age have been vaccinated against poliomyelitis and about 50% in the 15 to 25 age group.

This protection was offered to people under 40 years of age on the 1st June, 1960.

Table 3 NOTIFICATION OF INFECTION DISEASES IN 1960 BY AGE GROUPS

Disease	0+	1+	3+	5+	10+	15+	25+	45+	65+	Age N.K.	Total
Scarlet Fever	...	1	...	5	1	1	...	...	...	...	7
Whooping Cough	...	7	10	18	1	...	...	...	...	...	1
Measles (excluding G.M.)	36
Ac. Poliomyelitis (P)
Ac. Poliomyelitis (N.P.)
Tuberculosis (Respiratory)
Tuberculosis (Meninges)
Tuberculosis (Other)
Diphtheria
Small Pox
Meningococcal Infection
Ac. Encephalitis (Inf.)
Ac. Encephalitis (Post. Inf.)
Dysentery
Ophthalmia Neonatorum
Puerperal Pyrexia
Acute Pneumonia (Prim. or 'Flu)
Para-typhoid Fever
Enteric Fever
Food Poisoning
Erysipelas
Malaria (contr. E. W.)
Total	1	7	15	19	2	...	...	...	...	...	...

TUBERCULOSIS

Table 4 This table shews the new cases, in-transfers and deaths from tuberculosis for the last 26 years

Year	Pop. of Borough	New and I.T. Cases	Per 1000 Pop.	Deaths	Per 1000 Pop.	No. on Register	Per 1000 Pop.
1935	4537	4	0.88	5	1.1	30	6.6
1936	4441	5	1.12	5	1.12	30	6.72
1937	4357	4	0.91	4	0.91	26	5.9
1938	4334	11	2.53	4	0.92	25	5.7
1939							
1940							
1941							
1942	4830	8	1.65	1	0.20	40	8.3
1943	4589	3	0.65	2	0.43	43	9.4
1944	4431	9	2.03	3	0.68	51	11.5
1945	4401	8	1.81	3	0.68	40	9.1
1946	4540	5	1.10	1	0.22	36	7.9
1947	4614	6	1.29	4	0.86	36	7.8
1948	4856	6	1.24	1	0.20	33	6.8
1949	5111	6	1.17	1	0.19	34	6.6
1950	5247	2	0.38	1	0.19	32	6.1
1951	5233	10	1.90	—	—	36	6.8
1952	5446	11	2.02	1	0.18	39	7.1
1953	5408	7	1.29	—	—	43	7.9
1954	5410	4	0.74	—	—	41	7.6
1955	5380	4	0.74	1	0.18	39	7.2
1956	5400	9	1.67	1	0.18	45	7.8
1957	5500	7	1.24	1	0.18	45	8.2
1958	5530	3	0.54	—	—	42	8.1
1959	5560	5	0.90	1	0.18	42	7.4
1960	5640	3	0.53	—	—	38	5.2

**Public Health (Prevention of Tuberculosis) Regulations, 1925
Public Health Act, 1936 (Section 172)**

No action was necessary under the above Regulations and Act.

Mass Radiography

The Mass Radiography Unit made a visit to the Watson Hall in October.

1,075 examinations were carried out.

Re-Housing of Tuberculosis Cases

The housing conditions of people suffering from tuberculosis are investigated and, where unsatisfactory, are reported to the Housing Committee. The elimination of overcrowding and the provision of good housing is essential, not only for the patient but for other members of his family who might otherwise contract the infection.

Of those on the register, the majority of whom are living in modern Council accommodation, no unsatisfactory housing report was made during the year.

Tuberculosis After-Care

A Joint After-Care Committee serves the Borough and the Rural District of Gloucester.

Funds are dependent on voluntary subscriptions augmented by the County Council from the charity levy on the Sunday opening of cinemas. So far no deserving case has been refused assistance.

Table 5

New, In-Transfer Cases, Deaths and Number remaining on the Register on 31st December, 1960

	Respiratory		Meninges/C.N.S.		Other Forms		Total
	Male	Female	Male	Female	Male	Female	
New Cases	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
In-transfer Cases	—	3	—	—	—	—	3
Deaths	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
On Register 31.12.60	18	19	—	—	—	1	38

It will be noted that there were no deaths from tuberculosis, which reflects on the success of modern medical treatment, but a number of people remain on the register of cases and are a possible source of infection. Full support for preventive measures such as Mass Radiography, B.C.G. vaccination and tracing of contacts could lead to the elimination of the disease.

CANCER

Table 6 Death rates from Cancer per 1,000 population

	England and Wales		Tewkesbury Borough	
	M	F	M	F
Cancer of the Lung	0.86	0.13	0.71	0.17
Other Cancer	1.5	1.8	0.71	1.2

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES IN THE BOROUGH

Water Supplies

Mains Supplies

Water is supplied in bulk by the Cheltenham and Gloucester Joint Water Board. The supply is derived from the River Severn and receives treatment by pre-chlorination, coagulation of the suspended solids by sulphate of alumina, sedimentation in upward-flow tanks, rapid gravity filtration through sand, pH correction with lime, and final sterilization with chlorine and/or ammonia. Throughout treatment, it is under constant laboratory supervision from both chemical and bacteriological aspects. There is no plumbo-solvent action.

The Chemist of the Board (J. Henderson, Esq., B.Sc., F.R.I.C.) has kindly supplied the results shown in Table 7 of the samples of water taken and examined by him at the Board's works.

Table 7

SUPPLY	Bacteriological Analyses	
	Satis.	Unsatis.
Raw river water ...	—	160
Treated water ...	630	—
Domestic water ...	758	2

The compiling of statistics concerning chemical examinations, which have become very numerous and complicated, has been discontinued.

Water Supplies in the Borough

In accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health, Table 8 shows the water supplies, number of houses and population on the 31st December, 1960.

Table 8

No. of Houses	Served by	Population
1781	Mains Supply	5616
8	Stand pipes	18
3	Well or River	6

New connections to public mains during the year: 22.

Extensions of mains during the year: Nil.

REPORT OF THE BOROUGH SURVEYOR

(F. Broxton, Esq., M.I.M.E., A.R.I.C.S.)

Sewerage

As a result of very mixed weather throughout the year, the main problem was sludge drying. Once the beds had been filled about April, they never dried out and all sludge was pumped to the large lagoon which, by the end of the year, stood two-thirds full. The works and pumping stations performed well and no major trouble was experienced. Towards the end of the year, however, a steady rise in the quantity arriving at the works for treatment was noticed due, it is felt, to infiltration of surface water, but despite continued investigation the reason for this has not been discovered.

During March, a section of the old 12-inch sewer at the rear of the Abbey collapsed, allowing a large quantity of clay and silt to get into the wells at the pumping station. When the broken pipes were uncovered, it was obvious that there had been trouble at this point before, so new pipes were put in and a manhole built.

Refuse Collection

A weekly collection was maintained throughout the Borough by four men and one vehicle, supplemented at bank holiday periods by an extra lorry and men. The number of premises to be collected from increase each year, and the point is practically reached when additional labour will be necessary, particularly remembering that, as from January, the working week will be reduced by two hours per man. Tipping during the winter months was carried out at Oldfield, and summer months by the Weir on the Ham. As the tipping on the area designated for the new road between Oldfield and Prior's Park will be virtually completed by the spring of 1961, it will be necessary to decide on a new site for refuse disposal during the winter of 1961-62.

Public Conveniences

Apart from repainting where necessary, nothing extra was done to the four public conveniences in the town. Unfortunately a certain amount of damage was done to each of them in turn by vandals and it is difficult to imagine what type of mind a person can have who delights in pulling pipes off walls, lavatory basins off brackets, forcing locks off doors, breaking lavatory seats, smashing panels in doors, and other stupid acts.

Swimming Pool

The cold wet days of last summer adversely affected the attendances at the bath and the numbers were considerably down on the previous year.

	1960	1959
Attendance by school parties ...	6,006	7,883
Casual attendances	4,670	7,638
Total ...	<hr/> 10,676	<hr/> 15,521

The surround to the bath was improved by removing the existing interwoven fencing and erecting a new wall some six feet further back and paving the area enclosed.

After some initial trouble the chlorination and filtration plant worked exceptionally well.

During the year two samples of bath water were taken for bacteriological examination and were reported to be satisfactory.

REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR
(J. H. Turner, Esq., M.R.S.H., M.A.P.H.I.)

A summary of the number and type of inspections carried out during the year is contained in Table 9 below.

Table 9

	No. of Inspec's	Notices Served		Defects Remedied after Notice	
		Informal	Formal	Informal	Formal
Dwelling Houses	187	23	—	21	—
Milk and Dairies	8	—	—	—	—
Factories, etc.	17	3	—	3	—
Bakehouses	7	1	—	1	—
Food Premises	121	19	—	15	—
Slaughterhouses	132	4	—	4	—
Water Supplies	26	1	—	1	—
Drainage and Sewerage...	57	5	—	5	—
Infectious Disease	6	—	—	—	—
Pests	49	2	—	2	—
Miscellaneous	143	14	—	14	—
Totals	753	72	—	66	—

HOUSING ACTS

Number of new houses erected during the year:

(a) By the Local Authority:					
(i) Permanent non-traditional	...	...	...	...	Nil
(ii) Permanent traditional	...	...	...	...	10
(b) By other authorities	...	...	...	...	Nil
(c) Tewkesbury Housing Society	...	...	...	...	Nil
(d) Private enterprise	...	...	...	...	22
					<u>32</u>

Council Houses under construction on 31.12.60:

Priors Park flats ...	...	...	...	...	4
Spring Gardens (old people's flats with warden's accommodation)	...	...	...	...	18

Number of dwellings controlled or owned by the Council at 31.12.60:

(i) Under the various Housing Acts	...	...	...	710
(ii) Corporate Property	...	...	...	25
(iii) Lock-up Shops	...	...	...	9
Total	...	744		

Included in (i) above are 58 dwellings suitable for occupation by aged persons (35 one-bedroomed flats, 21 one-bedroomed bungalows and 2 two-bedroomed bungalows).

House construction in the Borough since the War (1.4.45 to 31.12.60):

By the Borough Council	...	...	...	499
By Private enterprise	...	...	...	118
Total	...	617		

SLUM CLEARANCE

Statutory Action during the year: Unfit Houses

1.	Housing Act, 1957, Part 11—Demolition and Closing Orders	
(a)	Number of Closing Orders made by the Council	4
(b)	Number of Demolition Orders made by the Council	4
(c)	Number of undertakings accepted not to use dwellings for human habitation	1
(d)	Number of houses demolished as a result of formal or informal action	3
2.	Housing Act, 1957, Section 42—Clearance Areas	
(a)	Number of houses demolished in Clearance or Compulsory Purchase Areas	Nil
(b)	Clearance Orders made during the year	Nil
(c)	Clearance Orders under consideration	Nil
(d)	Compulsory Purchase Orders made during the year	1
(e)	Compulsory Purchase Orders under consideration	Nil

As in previous years, slum clearance was confined principally to the closure and demolition of individual unfit houses.

A provisional list of houses suitable for slum clearance, prepared in accordance with the Ministry of Housing and Local Government Circular 2/60, contained 240 dwellings.

Whilst it is necessary to deal with the individual unfit house when encountered, either as a result of a tenant's complaint or during the investigation of a Council house applicant's circumstances, the main problem of areas of sub-standard dwellings remains.

Situated in narrow courts and passages, inadequately ventilated and lighted, constructed in many cases as back to back or blank back houses, lacking the basic amenities and sharing w.c.'s, these dwellings could more properly be dealt with as clearance areas followed by purchase and redevelopment by the Council.

The ability of the Council to rehouse displaced families must, of course, be considered before beginning any extensive clearance schemes, and to deal with the above-mentioned dwellings over a ten-year period would require the provision of 24 dwellings per year. The Council's difficulty in finding suitable building sites has been referred to by the Medical Officer of Health in his preamble to the report.

Some of the listed dwellings are of historic and architectural interest and their preservation seems to depend upon their acquisition by owners with the necessary financial resources, willing to carry out the required improvements.

Improvement Grants

	Standard Grants	Disc. Imp. Grant
No. of grants approved for owner/occupied dwellings	5
No. of grants approved for landlord-owned dwellings	1

Owner/occupiers provided the majority of applicants for grant-aided improvement schemes, and it is disappointing that more owners of rented houses have not come forward to avail themselves of the Standard Grant scheme in order to modernise and improve their houses.

Is the bait of a rent increase of 8% of the landlord's share of the improvement cost not sufficiently attractive? Landlords might be more forthcoming if the provisions of the Housing Bill to make this increase $12\frac{1}{2}\%$ are implemented.

Perhaps local authorities ought to have compulsory powers to require the improvement of suitable houses. Surely, with the general trend of improving standards of living, the provision of a bath, wash hand basin and hot water supply to every house ought to be regarded as a necessary part of this improvement.

By amending the Housing Act standard of fitness so as to include the provision of a bath, wash hand basin and hot water supply as matters to be taken into account when determining whether a house is unfit, local authorities exercising their powers under Sec. 9 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1957, would have a powerful weapon in their hands to require the provision of these facilities in every house.

RENT ACT, 1957

No applications were received during the year, under the provisions of this Act.

REPORT ON RE-HOUSING PROGRESS

Waiting List at 31st December, 1960

Applicants' Requirements	No.	%	Place of Residence	
			In Borough	Outside
Old People's Bungalows ...	50	17	37	13
One-bedroom Accommodation ...	73	26	45	28
Two-bedroom Accommodation ...	99	35	57	42
Three-bedroom Accommodation ...	58	20	17	41
Four-bedroom Accommodation ...	6	2	3	3
Totals ...	286		159	127

There was a reduction of 16 in the number of applicants on the housing waiting list during the year.

The completion of 10 new houses and bungalows and the vacation of existing houses enabled 32 families to be rehoused during the year. Three were rehoused consequent upon slum clearance action and three were nominated for tenancies by the National Coal Board Research Establishment, Stoke Orchard.

Twenty-four transfers and exchanges were effected during the year, principally to allow families which had increased or decreased in numbers, to occupy accommodation better suited to their needs.

There is still a great demand for one or two-bedroomed accommodation from newly-married couples or families with young children. Living with their "in-laws," as many of these applicants must, very often creates domestic difficulties and troubles. As rented accommodation is very scarce, and lacking the necessary financial resources to purchase a house, their only hope lies in obtaining Council accommodation. Flats or maisonettes erected on cleared sites in the centre of the Borough would meet this need,

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD PREMISES

Details of food premises in the Borough are given in the under-mentioned Table 10.

Table 10

Type of Business	Total Number	No. of Inspect's	No. Reg. S16 F. & D. Act, 1955
Cafes and Canteens	26	33	19
Grocery and Provision Shops, Sweets, Chemists and Fruiterers	56	40	4
Ice Cream Vendors	39	19	39
Butchers' Shops	10	15	10
Fishmongers (Fried and Wet Fish)	4	5	2
Bakehouses	3	7	—
Licensed Premises and Hotels	26	8	—
Dairies	1	1	—
Totals	165	128	74

Food Hygiene

The Food Hygiene (General) Regulations came into operation on the 1st October, 1960, embodying a number of amendments in the general provisions of the Regulations in the light of experience gained from the working of the Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.

Although one can legislate for the provision of facilities necessary to achieve and maintain good standards of food hygiene, such as wash hand basins and hot water supplies, it is still necessary to educate some food handlers in their proper use. On several occasions, whilst inspecting food premises, wash hand basins have been found to contain utensils and cloths and sinks in catering premises used for soaking the family washing.

A similar misuse of facilities can be instanced by the shop with a gleaming glass and chrome show case on the counter, stocked with chocolate bars, packets of biscuits and other wrapped foods, whilst on the counter, unprotected from contamination, one finds a plate of cakes or meat pies, or some other unwrapped foodstuff. When it is pointed out to the food handler that these and other similar practices are unhygienic, the offending articles are speedily removed, only to reappear again in a few days. This type of shopkeeper and food handler must be educated to a sense of responsibility and to realise the possible serious consequences of his actions.

Slaughter Houses

There is one privately owned licensed slaughterhouse in the Borough. The Slaughterhouse Report prepared in accordance with the Slaughterhouses Report (Appointed Day) Order 1959, was approved by the Council and submitted to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food in February. It was apparent that the one slaughterhouse was sufficient to meet the existing and probable future requirements of the Borough.

The Minister accepted the Report and appointed January 1st, 1961, as the day on which the Construction Regulations would come into force in the Borough.

One hundred and thirty-two visits were made to the slaughterhouse during the year.

Table 11
MEAT INSPECTION

	Cattle excl. cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Goats	Horses	Total
Number killed (if known)	270	21	28	1153	608	—	—	2080
Number inspected ...	270	21	28	1153	608	—	—	2080
All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci :-								
Whole carcasses condemned ...	1	1	2	—	1	—	—	5
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	30	9	2	40	30	—	—	111
Percentage of the number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis and cysticerci ...	11.5	47.6	7.1	3.5	5.0	—	—	—
Tuberculosis only :-								
Whole carcasses condemned ...	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	—	—	—	—	23	—	—	23
Percentage of the number inspected affected with tuberculosis ...	—	—	—	—	3.2	—	—	—
Cysticercosis :-								
Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned ...	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Carcases submitted to treatment by refrigeration ..	2	—	—	—	—	—	—	2
Generalised and totally condemned	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—

As is shown in Table 11, 100% meat inspection at the slaughterhouse was maintained. By achieving this, a public health inspector makes, in my opinion, one of his most important contributions to the prevention of disease.

It will also be observed from Table 11, that for the first time, no evidence of tuberculosis in cattle was found. Referring to the Annual Report for 1954, which was the first year the local slaughterhouse was in use after decontrol, the percentage of tuberculosis in cattle (excluding cows) was 26%, and in cows 45%. The virtual elimination of this disease is the result of the eradication campaign carried out by Ministry veterinary staff throughout the country, involving the testing of cattle and the subsequent slaughter of all reactors.

Parasitic conditions in food animals are now one of the main reasons for the condemnation of offal at the slaughterhouse, and these, if tackled on a national basis, might similarly be reduced over the next few years.

Reasons for the rejection of meat at the Slaughterhouse as unfit for food:

Table 12

Whole Carcasses

Disease	Bovine	Calves	Pigs	Sheep	Weight
Pyrexia	1	—	—	—	635 lb.
Septicaemia	—	1	1	—	309 lb.
Lymphatic Leukaemia	1	—	—	—	435 lb.
Immaturity	—	1	—	—	40 lb.
				Total ...	1,419 lb.

Table 13

Parts of Carcasses and Offal

Disease	Weight
Tuberculosis	338 lb.
Fascioliasis	347 lb.
Cirrhosis	38 lb.
Abscesses	58 lb.
Pneumonia, Pleurisy, Pericarditis, Peritonitis ...	85 lb.
Cysts and Parasites (excluding C. Bovis) ...	154 lb.
Cysticercus Bovis	34 lb.
Miscellaneous	163 lb.
Total ...	1,217 lb.

Total weight of meat rejected as unfit ... 2,636 lb.

Slaughter of Animals Act, 1958

Four slaughtermen's licences were granted during the year.

INSPECTION OF OTHER FOODS

Food suspected of being unsound is either brought by the complainant purchaser to the Public Health Inspector for examination or made available for inspection by him at the hotel or shop concerned.

Table 14 records the foodstuffs examined and declared unfit for human consumption outside the local slaughterhouse.

Table 14

Article		Non-Preserved	Preserved (tinned)
Meat	...	15 lbs.	37 lbs.
Milk and Cream	...	—	5 „
Fish	...	10 lbs.	3 „
Fruits (various)	...	—	77 „
Vegetables (various)	...	—	27 „
Miscellaneous	...	—	2 „

Total weight of foodstuffs : 176 lbs.

Five complaints were received during the year regarding the condition of food supplied to purchasers.

The complaints concerned rancid butter, a mouldy loaf and pork pie, ice lollies having a peculiar taste, and a loaf of bread which had apparently been pecked by birds.

All the complaints were investigated and the persons or firms responsible interviewed. Cautionary letters were sent in each case.

MILK SUPPLIES

The Council's principal powers controlling local milk supplies relate to the conveyance and distribution of milk, including the taking of preventive measures against the spread of milk-borne diseases. The Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food is the statutory authority controlling milk production at dairy farms and the County Council regulate by licence, pasteurising and sterilizing plants.

The Borough Council's powers of licensing dealers of pasteurised, sterilized and tuberculin tested milks were revoked by the Milk (Special Designation) Regulations, 1960, and the County Council, from the 1st January, 1961, will also be responsible for the issue of these licences.

Details of licences issued up to 31st December, 1960, are shown in Table 15.

Table 15

Classification of Milk	Dealers' Licences	Supplementary Licences
Tuberculin Tested ...	17	—
Pasteurised ...	17	—
Sterilised ...	2	—

Details of the registration of distributors and dairies, other than dairy farms, in accordance with the Milk and Dairies (General) Regulations, 1959, are shown in Table 16.

Table 16

No. of Milk Distributors registered ...	... 16
No. of Dairies registered ...	... 1

Retail Milk Sampling

Fifteen samples of milk were obtained and the results of tests are recorded in Table 17:

Table 17

Nature of Test	Pasteurised		Sterilized	
	Passed	Failed	Passed	Failed
Methylene Blue (keeping quality) ...	13	—	—	—
Phosphatase (effic. of pasteurisation)	13	—	—	—
Turbidity ...	... —	—	2	—

ICE CREAM

There are 39 vendors of ice cream in the Borough, 37 retailing pre-packed ice cream which is manufactured in bulk outside the Borough and 2 manufacturing and retailing their own cold mix.

Eight samples of ice cream were obtained from vendors during the year in order to assess the hygienic standards of manufacture, distribution, and storage. The results, recorded in Table 18, are satisfactory.

Table 18

Type of Ice Cream	Grade				Total
	1	2	3	4	
Complete Cold Mix (Unwrapped)	1	-	-	-	1
Heat Treated (within the Borough) ,,	-	-	-	-	-
Heat Treated (outside the Borough) (Unwrapped)	-	-	-	-	-
Heat Treated (outside the Borough) (Wrapped)	6	1	-	-	7
Totals	7	1	-	-	8

FOOD CONTROL

Adulteration and Quality

The sampling of food and drugs to check compositional standards and quality, and to detect adulteration, abstraction, substitution, and false or misleading descriptions, is carried out in the Borough by the County Council's Sampling Officers, who have kindly supplied information on their activities which is summarised below:

Article	Nos. of Samples		Result
	Formal	Informal	
Milk	5	29	32
Channel Island Milk	—	6	6
Patent Medicines	—	9	9
Cheese	—	3	3
Pork Pie	—	3	3
Steak and Kidney Pie	—	1	1
Tea	—	2	2
Instant Tea	—	1	1
Instant Coffee	—	3	3
Mineral water bottle containing razor blades	—	1	

Two milk samples had fat deficiencies but when bulked the fat content was satisfactory.

Proceedings were taken under Sec. 2 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, in respect of the mineral water bottle containing the razor blades. The defendants were fined £10 with £113 costs.

RODENT CONTROL

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act, 1949

The Rodent Operator is a member of the Borough Engineer's staff who is made available for a half-day per week for rodent control duties. The ready co-operation of the Borough Engineer in releasing the operator on other occasions when urgently required, is much appreciated.

A summary of the work performed in the Borough during the year appears hereunder.

Table 19

Property	Inspections	Treatments
Dwelling houses (inc. Council houses)	12	10
All other (inc. business premises) ...	138	97
Local Authority (tips, sewage works, etc.) ...	88	83
Agricultural ...	—	—
Total ...	238	190

As usual, the town's sewerage system was successfully treated twice during the year.

Details of work carried out on Refuse Tips and at the Sewage Works are given below.

Table 20

Property	Inspections	Treatments
Gannaways Lane Tip ..	2	2
Gander Lane ...	9	9
Walton Cardiff ...	17	17
Severn Ham ...	15	15
Oldfield Tip ...	26	25
Sewage Works ...	19	15
Total ...	88	83

Disinfestation (Fleas, Wasps, etc.)

Thirty-two infestations were treated with smoke generators or spray insecticides, the majority involving wasps.

Clean Air

Although there is no local problem from industrial smoke, air pollution due to diesel fumes from heavy transport vehicles has caused concern during the year. There is very heavy traffic of these vehicles on the main trunk road from the North and the Midlands, which is also one of the main shopping streets in the town.

The visible smoke emitted from many of them causes soiling of the clothing of pedestrians, and by obscuring visibility can be a danger to other motorists. The effect of the inhalation of the invisible gases in the smoke is still not known.

Control over the emission of excessive visible smoke is primarily a police function and one successful prosecution was taken during the year.

A report was submitted to the Council in November outlining the problem and the relevant statutory control provisions. After consideration of the report, it was felt that control over this particular type of air pollution was not adequate. It was decided that the Council should associate themselves with the National Society for Clean Air, whose work on this problem was worthy of support.

Shops Act, 1950

Twelve visits were made to shops to check compliance with the health and welfare provisions of the Act. No contraventions were found.

The Council's part-time Shops Hours Inspector had to caution five shopkeepers during the year for infringing the Act. He reports that there was no cause for legal action.

Camping Sites

There are three principal sites in the Borough:

1. Adjoining the Municipal Car Park at Gloucester Road and close to the children's swimming pool and public conveniences, this site is owned by the Council. Plots are let out to holiday caravanners during the summer season only.
2. Vineyards Park is a holiday encampment owned by the Council and is in use mainly during August. Approximately 100 tents can be accommodated without congestion. An ablution block with a wash hand basin and three water closets for each sex is available on the site.
3. The Odessa Inn, Gloucester Road, has a caravan site which is privately owned. Although mainly used by holidaymakers there are several residential caravans. Flush water closets, mains water and fire fighting apparatus are available on the site.

There are four individual caravans in the Borough.

Pet Animals Act, 1951

Two licences were issued during the year. One to a dog breeder and the other in respect of a pet shop selling goldfish and hamsters. Satisfactory conditions were maintained in accordance with the licence provisions.

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Act, 1952

Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Regulations, 1953

No unguarded or improperly guarded appliances were found during routine observations at local shops offering for sale oil, gas and electric heating appliances.

Offensive Trades

There are no offensive trades in the Borough.

Rag Flock and other Filling Materials Act, 1951

One upholsterer is registered under the Act.

Petroleum Consolidated Acts, 1928-1936

Fifteen licences were issued under these Acts. Routine inspections and pressurized testing of petroleum storage tanks ensure that licence conditions are complied with.

ADMINISTRATION OF THE FACTORIES ACTS,
1937 to 1948

Table 21 Inspection for the provisions as to health

Premises	No. of Premises in Registr.	No. of Inspect'ns	No. of Written Notices	No. of Occupiers Prosecut'd
(i) Factories in which Secs. 1, 2, 3 4 and 6 are to be enforced by the Local Authorities	2	1	—	—
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	42	15	2	—
(iii) Other premises in which section 7 is enforced by the L.A. (excl. outworkers)	2	1	1	—
Total ..	46	17	3	—

Table 22 Cases in which defects were found

Particulars	No. of Defects Found	No. of Defects Remedied	No. of Defects Referred to by H.M.I	No. of defects in respect of which prosecutions were instituted
Want of cleanliness Sec. 1 ...	—	—	—	—
Overcrowding Sec. 2 ...	—	—	—	—
Unreasonable temp. Sec. 3	—	—	—	—
Inadequate ventilation Sec. 4	—	—	—	—
Ineffect. drain. offloors Sec 6	—	—	—	—
Sanitary Conveniences. Sec. 7				
(a) Insufficient ...	1	1	—	—
(b) Unsuitable or defective	2	1	—	—
(c) not separate for sexes	—	—	—	—
Other offences against the Act (not inc. Homework)	—	—	—	—
Total...	3	2	—	—

Table 23 Outwork (Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	Section 110			Section 111		
	No. of out-workers in Aug. list as required	No. of cases of default in sending lists	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	Cases of work in unwholesome premises	Notices Served	Prosecutions
Wearing Apparel (making)	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—

